

Speaker Registration/Testimony

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 Meeting Date 07-11-2017
 Council/PH Committee PublicHearing
 Agenda Item CB52 CD1 (2017)
 Your position on the matter Comment
 Representing Self
 Organization
 Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

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 C & C OF HONOLULU

Written
 Testimony

In times past alien invaders commonly destroyed the cultural markers of the conquered indigenous population because if the symbols of the conquered are destroyed, the sense of their civic pride is similarly diminished and if not killed, they are more easily rendered docilely subject to the conquering force. A tragically dramatic example of this strategy is the destruction of historically significant sites in the Middle East by the barbaric ISIS and the diaspora of millions of the region's population.

A similar, less overtly violent invasion of Hawaii has been visited to the native Hawaiian and kama'aina. Euphemistically called economic reform we have witnessed the destruction of Hawaii's cultural markers, its iconic tourist attractions, buildings and cultural practices: The Queen's Surf, the Alexander-Young Hotel, the Kodak Hula Show, the Hawaii Calls radio broadcast from the beach in front of the Moana Hotel, and the insidious displacement of local families by the explosion of vacation rentals abetted by AirBnB and it's ilk.

During your consideration of CB52 CD1 (2017), think about the consequences of increasing the tax burden on the handful of historic homes in Honolulu. Will their owners be compelled to raze the structures, build a modern home to be sold to the highest bidder? If that were to happen will the atmosphere and character of its neighborhood change to resemble a similar neighborhood in Anywhere, USA? If a house with a current historic home is a rental, will its occupants join the growing number of homeless crowding the perimeters of the city parks because they can't sleep in the park after 10:00 p.m.?

For the minimal contribution the real property tax on these historic homes would make to the city's coffers have an impact?

An explanation is owed to the citizens of Honolulu. I hope you will provide one.

Testimony
 Attachment

Accept Terms
 and Agreement

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MISC. COM. 3443

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7/10/2017